

H-OLAGram

Latino Leadership Wanted for DC Boards and Commissions

Qualified members of the Latino community are being called out to fill 25 vacancies on DC's boards and commissions. The Commission on Aging and the District Commission on Human Rights, as well as the Developmental Disabilities State Planning Council and the Mayor's Commission on Latino Community Development are soliciting applications from Latino constituents of various backgrounds to represent the Latino community.

To apply for a board or commission position, or to recommend a qualified individual, mail or fax a letter of application to the OLA office expressing your desire to serve, along

with a brief resume. Many boards have similar names, so applicants should be sure to state the full and correct name of the board of preference. Letters of application should include the name, address, and contact numbers of the applicants, as well as a completed "Application for Mayoral Appointment to a Board or Commission" form, and an explanation of the applicants qualifications or experience in the area of the board's activity.

More information, including the "Application for Mayoral Appointment to a Board or Commission" form necessary for application, can be found online at www.obc.dc.gov.

Latino Involvement High at Mayor's Crime Prevention Forum

Latino participation in the Mayor's Crime and Prevention Forum was strong due to the Latino Community-specific session planned by OLA. More than 50 Latino constituents attended the forum, held Saturday, January 25, 2003 at Eastern High School, with over 35 Latinos engaging in a two-hour discussion conducted in Spanish with the Metropolitan Police Department's Latino Liaison Unit (LLU). The session generated five general recommendations including, more bilingual personnel, especially in the 3rd and 4th Districts, better follow up on Latino cases, better communication between the police, the Latino community based organizations and other DC agencies, a greater Latino presence with the MPD in order to facilitate communication with the Latino community, and less discrimination from the police in general.

Session panelists, who are all LLU officers, recommended that Latino residents who find themselves at odds with the police become more engaged with the MPD by attending their Police Service Area (PSA) meetings regularly. Each neighborhood within the larger police district is broken down into PSAs, each of which conduct monthly public meetings with the communities they serve to discuss issues of concern.



Mayor Anthony A. Williams listens in as Latino constituents discuss the specific safety and crime prevention issues they face as a community.

The MPD LLU is located at 1800 Columbia Road NW and officers can be reached via email at mpdllu@hotmail.com or by calling (202) 673-4445.

A Crime Follow-up Forum will be held March 24 to discuss the progress made since the initial January forum. OLA will provide more information as it becomes available.

OLA's Latino CBO Fund Development Meetings Begin Next Month

OLA will conduct a regular series of "Fund Development" meetings beginning March 12, 2003 at 3pm in the 2nd floor conference room, 2000 14th Street NW. The meetings are open to all Latino community-based organizations (CBOs) as well as LCEG FY03 Grantees, to assist in the development of funding proposals and the identification of funding sources. The meetings will be held the second Wednesday of each month until September. The series will feature presentations and guest speakers to provide technical assistance to Latino community based organizations so they may better develop funding opportunities.

Neighborhood PSAs:

The Adams Morgan and Columbia Heights neighborhoods are represented by PSAs 301, 302, 304, 305, and 306 in the Third District. Latino Liaison Unit Officers will be present at all PSA Meetings to provide Spanish translation.

- PSA 301, located from Harvard St. to Kalorama Rd. and 19th St. to 16th St. NW, will meet Thursday, February 20 at 6pm at 1620 V St. NW.
- PSA's 302 and 305, collectively located from Harvard St. to V St. and 16th St. to 9th St. NW, will both meet Thursday, February 20 at 7pm in Cardoza High School at 13th and Clifton St. NW.



Executive Office of the
Mayor,
Office on Latino Affairs

Efforts at OLA Help Ensure Success of Mayor's "100 Day Plan"

Primary in OLA's list of goals and objectives this year is the implementation of Mayor Anthony A. Williams three main priorities for District Government programs and services. Those priorities include "Opportunity for All," which OLA strives to achieve each day through its community outreach, advocacy and community based organizations development/grants programs. OLA is also coordinating an emergency preparedness program with the Executive Office of the Mayor and continuing to develop a working relationship with the Metropolitan Police Department Latino Liaison Unit in consideration of the Mayor's "Public Safety" priority. Lastly, to fulfill the Mayor's commitment to "Education," and through its work with Latino community based organizations and the Latino Community Education Grant, OLA will host a workshop series for Latino community based organizations to provide technical assistance in their funding development and securing sustainable funding.

MAYOR'S OFFICE ON LATINO AFFAIRS

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Notices & Events

- OLA, working in collaboration with the Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Island Affairs (OAPIA), will host a Bilingual Job Fair in March targeting the Spanish, Vietnamese, Mandarin and Korean speaking workforces and employers. This is part of OLA's push to get bilingual customer service and professional employees in DC government. Further details about the job fair will be announced.
- The MPD Latino Liaison Unit (LLU) will hold a press conference on Wednesday, February 12 at 7pm to discuss their unit's progress and to begin a Latino media campaign that will address the services provided to Latino residents. The LLU is located at 1800 Columbia Road NW and officers can be reached via email at mpdllu@hotmail.com or by calling (202) 673-4445.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- The La Casa facility of the Coalition for the Homeless is currently seeking a FT, bilingual social worker. This individual will be responsible for the delivery of clinical services to adult males. The incumbent will become a member of a case management team seeking to provide comprehensive and integrated social services to program participants. Requires BSW or MSW from accredited social work school, license to practice social work in DC, 1 year of post graduate case management experience, must be bi-lingual, fluent Spanish speaking. Please fax resume and salary requirements to Donald H. Mercer, La Casa Program Director at (202) 462-5669.
- Latin American Youth Centers seeks FT Bilingual Housing Program Coordinator. Qualified applicants will have a Bachelor's in social work or related field, minimum two years working with youth, knowledge of community resources, experience in substance abuse a plus, valid driver's license and a flexible schedule. Please send resumes to Steve Chaplain, Program Coordinator, Latin American Youth Center, 1419 Columbia Road NW, Washington, DC 20009 or by phone at (202) 319-1820.
- Mary's Center is in need of a bilingual Educational Administrator for a family literacy initiative. Requires BS/BA and a minimum of five years of experience working in administration at a school or social service organization. Experience working in local immigrant communities highly desirable. Competitive salary with superb benefits! Send resume with salary requirement to HR@maryscenter.org or fax (202) 234-3678. Please do not apply unless you possess excellent oral and written communication skills in both English and Spanish. EOE.
- Tellin' Stories Project, Teaching for Change is looking for a bilingual individual to fill a PT family-school coordinator position. The position is 20 hours per week with the possibility of expanding to FT at a salary of \$17,500. Qualified applicants should have familiarity with MS Word, Excel, and Publisher, written and spoken fluency in Spanish and English, strong writing and great people skills. Applicants should send a resume and at least two references to: PO Box 73038, Washington, DC 20056 or fax to (202) 238-0109.

OLA Creating Community Bonds Through Latin Embassies

Building on an already strong community outreach campaign, OLA is now working in tandem with Latino embassies throughout the District to educate and inform the Latino community through its "Embassy Outreach Initiative." Embassies represent a viable outreach location with hundreds of OLA constituents passing through their doors each day.

Through the initiative, OLA staff meet with a different Latino embassy staff every other week to present information on topics ranging from immigration and education to health care

issues, like cancer awareness and HIV/AIDS and STD education. The meetings serve as

training sessions through which OLA staff educate embassy staff about various topics, enabling them to better address DC public service questions as they arise. In addition to training and education, OLA staff also provide Spanish language materials on the session topics for dissemination to the community.

The "Embassy Outreach Initiative" kicked off on Tuesday, January 28 at the Embassy of Mexico.

